

**REMARKS**

In the last Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-26 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Chou et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,330,499), but indicated that, "If the applicant were to amend the claims to further clarify the invention, then the invention may be in condition for allowance." Office Action, page 5. Claims 1-26 are currently pending, with claims 1, 8, 14, 17, 20, and 23 being independent. Applicants have amended claims 1, 5, 8, 14-17, 20, and 23.

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for granting and conducting an interview with Applicants' representative on June 30, 2004. The amendments to the claims and the remarks below are consistent with the topics discussed during the interview.

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of claims 1-26 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Chou et al. for at least the reason that Chou et al. fails to disclose every claim element. For example, independent claims 1 and 14 include, among other things, the step of defining a "testing procedure by selecting from a plurality of pre-defined owner inputs each associated with one or more diagnostic processes[.]" Similarly, independent claims 8, 17, and 23 recite "an owner input device configured to accept a plurality of different owner inputs, each associated with one or more diagnostic processes[.]" Further, claim 20 includes the step of "analyzing one or more sets of machine data based on prior input by an owner selecting a testing procedure for generating said one or more sets of machine data[.]" Chou et al. fails to disclose at least these elements.

In contrast, while Chou et al. discloses a system having multiple owner input means (col. 3, line 1), the selection does not enable the owner to choose one or more

diagnostic processes from a selection thereof, as required by the claims. Rather, Chou et al. discloses multiple owner input means, wherein the inputs are associated with other functions besides diagnostic processes, such as a “push-to-talk” feature or a “911” button. Col. 3, lines 8-9. Further, any initiation of a diagnostic process via owner input disclosed in Chou et al. results in an entire set of diagnostic processes being carried out upon making a single input. Chou et al. fails to disclose selecting only certain diagnostic processes to be performed as part of an owner-defined test. Therefore, the Chou et al. system sends all diagnostic data to a service center with one push of the “Call Me” button. Col. 3, lines 32-36. Because Chou et al. fails to disclose every claim element of independent claims 1, 8, 14, 17, 20, and 23, the Section 102(e) rejection of claims 1-26 should be withdrawn.

The Office Action contains characterizations of the claims and the related art with which Applicants do not necessarily agree. Unless expressly noted otherwise, Applicants decline to subscribe to any statement or characterization in the Office Action.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and reexamination of this application and the timely allowance of the pending claims.

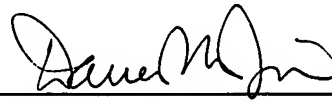
Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: July 6, 2004

By: \_\_\_\_\_



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